

# 2018 Current Fiscal Year Report: Southcentral Alaska Subsistence Regional Advisory Council

Report Run Date: 06/05/2019 06:25:30 PM

## 1. Department or Agency

Department of the Interior

## 2. Fiscal Year

2018

## 3. Committee or Subcommittee

Southcentral Alaska Subsistence Regional Advisory  
Council

## 3b. GSA Committee No.

1532

## 4. Is this New During Fiscal Year?

No

## 5. Current Charter

12/04/2017

## 6. Expected Renewal Date

12/04/2019

## 7. Expected Term Date

## 8a. Was Terminated During FiscalYear?

No

## 8b. Specific Termination Authority

## 8c. Actual Term Date

## 9. Agency Recommendation for Next FiscalYear

Continue

## 10a. Legislation Req to Terminate?

Not Applicable

## 10b. Legislation Pending?

Not Applicable

## 11. Establishment Authority Statutory (Congress Created)

## 12. Specific Establishment Authority

16 U.S.C. 3115 (1988)

## 13. Effective Date

12/02/1980

## 14. Committee Type

Continuing

## 14c. Presidential?

No

## 15. Description of Committee Non Scientific Program Advisory Board

## 16a. Total Number of Reports

1

## 16b. Report Date

04/30/2018

## Report Title

Annual Report for FY 2017

## Number of Committee Reports Listed: 1

## 17a. Open 2 17b. Closed 0 17c. Partially Closed 0 Other Activities 0 17d. Total 2

## Meetings and Dates

### Purpose

The Southcentral Council held its public meeting in Homer, Alaska to develop recommendations on eight wildlife proposed regulations for the Federal Subsistence Boards consideration. The Council was presented a briefing on the 2018 Fisheries Resource Monitoring Program and develop its topics for its FY 2017 Annual Report. Agency reports were also presented.

### Start

### End

11/06/2017 - 11/07/2017

The Council held its winter meeting on March 6-7, 2018 in Anchorage, Alaska. The Council was presented a briefing on the Cook Inlet Fisheries regulations rewrite. The Council also provided comments on the delegation of authority letters for fishery management for Prince William Sound. The Council also announced the call for Federal fishery proposals and presented an update on the Fisheries Resource Monitoring Program. The Council approved its FY 2017 Annual Report. Agency reports were presented to the Council.

03/06/2018 - 03/07/2018

## Number of Committee Meetings Listed: 2

Current FY

Next FY

<b>18a(1). Personnel Pmts to Non-Federal Members</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18a(2). Personnel Pmts to Federal Members</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18a(3). Personnel Pmts to Federal Staff</b>	\$113,429.00	\$116,831.00
<b>18a(4). Personnel Pmts to Non-Member Consultants</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18b(1). Travel and Per Diem to Non-Federal Members</b>	\$15,224.00	\$15,681.00
<b>18b(2). Travel and Per Diem to Federal Members</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18b(3). Travel and Per Diem to Federal Staff</b>	\$2,605.00	\$2,683.00
<b>18b(4). Travel and Per Diem to Non-member Consultants</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18c. Other(rents,user charges, graphics, printing, mail, etc.)</b>	\$15,804.00	\$16,278.00
<b>18d. Total</b>	\$147,062.00	\$151,473.00
<b>19. Federal Staff Support Years (FTE)</b>	1.15	1.15

**20a. How does the Committee accomplish its purpose?**

The Council typically meets twice a year to discuss subsistence issues and make recommendations to the Federal Subsistence Board on hunting and fish regulations and other subsistence-related issues. Because the meetings are open to the public, the public also has the opportunity to provide input into the Subsistence Board's decisions about managing subsistence in the area.

**20b. How does the Committee balance its membership?**

Members broadly represent geographic, cultural, user, and gender diversity present within the region. This is ensured through a rigorous outreach/recruitment effort and a thorough evaluation and recommendation process. Applicants are evaluated according to the following criteria: they must be a resident of the region in which they applied; have extensive knowledge of the region's fish and wildlife resources; have extensive knowledge of the region's subsistence uses, customs, and traditions; have extensive knowledge of the region's sport, commercial, and other nonsubsistence uses; and have evident leadership and communication skills. The applicants, their references, and key contacts within the region are interviewed by panels of Federal agency staff. These panels meet to rate and rank the applicants according to standards set by the Board. This information is considered by the Interagency Staff Committee which makes its recommendation to the Federal Subsistence Board. The Board then meets to review the applicants and make their recommendations to the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture. The Board recommendations balance the points of view represented on the Council with the Council's function, which is to advise the Board on matters pertaining to subsistence. The Board also considers other factors such as geographic representation within the region. The Secretaries must concur regarding appointments. The entire process requires approximately 9 months to complete.

**20c. How frequent and relevant are the Committee Meetings?**

Meetings typically occur twice each year with additional meetings as needed to address particular issues and meet the fisheries regulatory cycle and the wildlife regulatory cycle. The Council develops recommendations on proposals for both regulatory cycles. Meetings are held in the region as often as possible so residents of the region have an opportunity to attend them and provide public testimony and knowledge of the resources for proposed subsistence hunting, trapping, and fishing regulations.

**20d. Why can't the advice or information this committee provides be obtained elsewhere?**

The Alaska National Interests Lands Conservation Act established the Regional Advisory Councils as a public forum for the expression of views and information originating from the local communities of the region, and to provide recommendations to the Board regarding management of fish and wildlife resources for subsistence uses on Federal public lands. The members of the Regional Advisory Council and the public participants provide the expertise of subsistence people to the process of forming regulations that govern their lives and to the management of Federal public lands they use for subsistence purposes. The Regional Advisory Councils are a vital link between the Board and rural residents whose lives the Board's decisions affect.

**20e. Why is it necessary to close and/or partially closed committee meetings?**

Not applicable - all meetings are open to the public.

**21. Remarks**

NA

**Designated Federal Officer**

Donald Mike Subsistence Council Coordinator

<b>Committee Members</b>	<b>Start</b>	<b>End</b>	<b>Occupation</b>	<b>Member Designation</b>
Caminer, Judith	12/03/2009	12/02/2018	Fish and wildlife resource user	Representative Member
Carpenter, Thomas	12/03/2009	12/02/2018	Fish and wildlife resource user	Representative Member
Dementi, Eleanor	12/03/2014	12/02/2019	subsistence user	Representative Member
Encelowski, Richard	11/04/2003	12/02/2019	subsistence user	Representative Member
Gease, Ricky	12/03/2015	12/02/2018	Fish and wildlife resource user	Representative Member
Holsten, Edward	12/05/2016	12/02/2019	subsistence user	Representative Member
McLaughlin, Andrew	12/03/2011	12/02/2020	subsistence user/Chenega Bay health clinic employee	Representative Member

Opheim, Michael	12/03/2011	12/02/2020	subsistence user/environmental coordinator for Seldovia Village Tribe	Representative Member
Peterson, Ingrid	12/03/2015	12/02/2018	subsistence user	Representative Member
Selanoff, Diane	12/05/2016	12/02/2019	subsistence user	Representative Member
Stevens, Daniel	12/05/2016	12/02/2019	subsistence user	Representative Member
Stickwan, Gloria	12/03/2011	12/02/2020	subsistence user/subsistence coordinator Ahtna, Inc.	Representative Member
Zadra, Dennis	12/11/2017	12/02/2020	Commercial/Sport User	Representative Member

## Number of Committee Members Listed: 13

### Narrative Description

Since Congress passed the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act in 1980, Title VIII has provided for the continuation of subsistence uses of fish and wildlife resources on Federal public lands by rural residents in Alaska. Title VIII required the creation of Subsistence Regional Advisory Councils to enable rural residents to have a meaningful role in Federal subsistence management. The Secretaries of the Interior and of Agriculture subsequently established the Federal Subsistence Management Program. The Program is a multi-agency effort that includes the Fish and Wildlife Service, National Park Service, Bureau of Land Management, Bureau of Indian Affairs, and the USDA Forest Service. These agencies manage the Federal public lands where subsistence activities take place, including waters running through or next to Federal public lands and with limited marine jurisdiction. The Secretaries delegated management authority for subsistence uses in Alaska to the Federal Subsistence Board, which is comprised of the regional directors of the five Federal public land managers in Alaska and a representative appointed by the Secretaries to serve as chair. The Board is the decisionmaking body that oversees the Federal Subsistence Management Program. The ten Subsistence Regional Advisory Councils provide recommendations and information to the Board, review policies and management plans, provide a public forum, develop proposals, evaluate current and anticipated subsistence needs, appoint members to the National Park Service subsistence resource commissions, and perform other duties required by the Board.

### What are the most significant program outcomes associated with this committee?

Checked if Applies

Improvements to health or safety	<input type="checkbox"/>
Trust in government	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Major policy changes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Advance in scientific research	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Effective grant making	<input type="checkbox"/>

Improved service delivery	<input type="checkbox"/>
Increased customer satisfaction	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Implementation of laws or regulatory requirements	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

### Outcome Comments

The Regional Advisory Council provides recommendations and information to the Board, reviews policies and management plans, provides a public forum, develops proposals, evaluates current and anticipated subsistence needs, appoints members to the National Park Service subsistence resource commissions, and performs other duties required from the Board. The Council makes recommendations to the Board regarding proposed changes to fish and wildlife regulations; management plans; policies, standards, and guidelines; determinations of customary and traditional use of subsistence resources; fisheries research projects; determinations of rural status; subsistence use allocations; and other matters related to subsistence take of fish and wildlife. The Council meets at least twice a year; however, individual members may represent the Board at any time to serve on a committee or working group. Council chairs attend at least two Board meetings a year to present the recommendations of the Council and provide knowledge and advice to the Board.

### What are the cost savings associated with this committee?

	Checked if Applies
None	<input type="checkbox"/>
Unable to Determine	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Under \$100,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
\$100,000 - \$500,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
\$500,001 - \$1,000,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
\$1,000,001 - \$5,000,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
\$5,000,001 - \$10,000,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
Over \$10,000,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
Cost Savings Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

### Cost Savings Comments

Regional Advisory Council members are all volunteers. They provide expert knowledge and advice to the Federal Subsistence Board which the Board cannot otherwise obtain. Without the Regional Advisory Council, the Program would need to greatly increase staff and research funding. The researchers would then need to seek information from the very people, or similar people, who now make up the Council. The Board adopts a preponderance of the Council's recommendations which may lower resource

management costs.

**What is the approximate Number of recommendations produced by this committee for the life of the committee?**

141

**Number of Recommendations Comments**

In FY 18 the Council met to develop recommendations on nine proposed wildlife regulations for the Federal Subsistence Board's consideration. The recommendations of the Council, to the Federal Subsistence Board, are detailed in the Council minutes. The Council approved its FY 17 Annual Report at its March 2018 public meeting. The Council also discussed wildlife proposals for the regulatory years 2018-2022.

**What is the approximate Percentage of these recommendations that have been or will be Fully implemented by the agency?**

70%

**% of Recommendations Fully Implemented Comments**

The Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act, Title VIII, Section 805(c) requires the Federal Subsistence Board to consider and adopt the report and recommendations of the Regional Advisory Council concerning the taking of fish and wildlife within the region for subsistence on public lands. The Board may choose not to follow a recommendation only if it determines the recommendation is not supported by substantial evidence, violates recognized principles of fish and wildlife conservation, or would be detrimental to the satisfaction of subsistence needs. Under this constraint, the Board generally adopts the Council's recommendations.

**What is the approximate Percentage of these recommendations that have been or will be Partially implemented by the agency?**

20%

**% of Recommendations Partially Implemented Comments**

The Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act, Title VIII, Section 805(c) requires the Federal Subsistence Board to consider and adopt the report and recommendations of the Regional Advisory Council concerning the taking of fish and wildlife within the region for subsistence on public lands. The Board may choose not to follow a recommendation only if it determines the recommendation is not supported by substantial evidence, violates recognized principles of fish and wildlife conservation, or would be detrimental to the satisfaction of subsistence needs.

**Does the agency provide the committee with feedback regarding actions taken to implement recommendations or advice offered?**

Yes ☒ No ☐ Not Applicable ☐

### **Agency Feedback Comments**

The Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act, Title VIII, Section 805(c) requires the Federal Subsistence Board (acting for the Secretary) to inform the Regional Advisory Council when the Board chooses not to adopt a Council recommendation concerning the taking of fish and wildlife on the public lands within the region for subsistence uses. The Board has expanded this to include reporting on those Council recommendations it does adopt and those it adopts with modification. These actions and their justifications are written in what is referred to as the "805(c) Letter." Board decisions regarding other matters, such as rural determinations, for which the Council makes recommendations are reported to the Council in a less formal manner by the Subsistence Regional Coordinator or the Council chair.

**What other actions has the agency taken as a result of the committee's advice or recommendation?**

Checked if Applies

Reorganized Priorities	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Reallocated resources	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Issued new regulation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Proposed legislation	<input type="checkbox"/>
Approved grants or other payments	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

### **Action Comments**

The Council's recommendations may affect the Federal land management agencies' prioritization of resources and development of regulations related to subsistence management.

**Is the Committee engaged in the review of applications for grants?**

No

### **Grant Review Comments**

Not Applicable

**How is access provided to the information for the Committee's documentation?**

Checked if Applies

Contact DFO	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Online Agency Web Site	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Online Committee Web Site	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Online GSA FACA Web Site	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Publications	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

### **Access Comments**

There is an extensive effort to announce the public meetings of the Regional Council via news releases, radio public service announcements, website postings, newspaper ads, and mass mailings. The agenda and meeting minutes are mass mailed to all the communities within the region and interested organizations and agencies. The Regional Coordinator has an 800 number to provide easier access for the public and to disseminate the actions of the Regional Council. There are various publications produced to share the actions of the Regional Council. These include, but are not limited to, meeting booklets for their semi-annual meetings, newsletters, topic-specific informational letters, brochures, and public handouts.